ABSTRACT

A method for producing a Portable Document Format (PDF) document from data in an Extensible Markup Language (XML) includes the steps of providing an Extensible Stylesheet Language Template (XSLT) transformer having an input and an output and being adapted to respond to XSLT instructions to vary the format of data received at the input. The XML data is introduced to the XSLT transformer at the input while XSLT instructions are provided to the transformer. Responding to the XSLT instructions, the XSLT transformer varies the format of the XML data at the input and provides at the output data in a Form Document Format (FDF) format. This data can be merged into a PDF form to produce the PDF document. The PDF form can be produced by scanning in order to further facilitate this process. An associated apparatus includes the XSLT template, XSLT transformer, a PDF form reader and a printer. A scanner can be used to scan a particular form and thereby produce the PDF form.